IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of claims and replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

1-26. (Cancelled).

27. (Previously Presented) A method for facilitating performance tracking comprising:

creating a project task, associated with a resource, using a user interface, the project task having a predetermined completion time;

using a transponder, presented by the resource, to communicate a transponder identifier to a radio frequency identification (RFID) reader via a radio frequency signal;

communicating the transponder identifier from the reader to a resource engine;

associating the transponder identifier with a first time value and a resource identifier corresponding to the resource;

using the transponder to communicate the transponder identifier to the reader for a second time;

communicating the transponder identifier from the reader to the resource engine for a second time;

associating the transponder identifier with a second time value and the resource identifier corresponding to the resource;

computing a task work time representing a time period that the resource was in a work environment, based at least on the first time value and the second time value;

associating the resource identifier and the task work time with the project task in the resource engine; and

comparing the predetermined completion time with the task work time.

28. (Cancelled).

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, further comprising tracking of at least one performance variable using the resource engine, wherein performance variable comprises at least one of a resource, a task, an application, and a skill.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the tracking of the at least one performance variable is based at least on the task work time.

31. (Cancelled).

32. (Cancelled).

33. (Previously Presented) A transponder-reader performance tracking system comprising:

a user interface operable to allow a user to create a project task, associated with a resource, the project task having a predetermined completion time;

a transponder, associated with the resource, operable to communicate a transponder identifier to a radio frequency identification (RFID) reader via a radio frequency signal;

a resource engine operable to receive the transponder identifier communicated by the reader, the resource engine further operable to associate the transponder identifier with a first time value and a resource identifier corresponding to the resource,

to associate the transponder identifier with a second time value and the resource identifier corresponding to the resource,

to compute a task work time representing a time period that the resource was in a work environment, based at least on the first time value and the second time value,

to associate the resource identifier and the task work time with the project task, and

to compare the predetermined completion time with the task work time.

34. (Cancelled).

35. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 33, wherein the resource engine is further configured to track at least one performance variable using the user interface, and wherein performance variable comprises at least one of a resource, a task, an application, and a skill.

36. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 35, wherein the resource engine tracks the at least one performance variable based at least on the task work time.

37. (Cancelled).

38. (Cancelled).

39. (Withdrawn) A method for tracking performance by a shopper of a shopping activity comprising a plurality of shopping tasks, the method comprising:

initiating the tracking of the shopping activity, the initiation requiring an active initiation action by the shopper;

communicating a transponder identifier, from a transponder carried by the shopper, to a first reader in a first location via a radio frequency signal;

communicating the transponder identifier from the first reader to a resource engine;

associating the transponder identifier with a first time value and a shopper identifier corresponding to the shopper;

communicating the transponder identifier, from the transponder, to a second reader in a second location via an radio frequency signal;

communicating the transponder identifier from the second reader to the resource engine;

associating the transponder identifier with a second time value and the shopper identifier corresponding to the shopper;

computing a shopping task time representing a time period that the shopper was in a predefined shopping area, based at least on the first time value and the second time value;

associating, in the resource engine, the shopper identifier and the shopping task time with a corresponding shopping task of the shopping activity.

40. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein the tracing of the shopping activity is initiated by an interaction of the shopper with a user interface.

41. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein the tracking of the shopping activity is initiated by receiving an opt-in request from the shopper.